

README File for ACS 2009 Summary Files

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Product Name and Year:

- Product: American Community Survey (ACS) Summary Files
- Year: 2009

Description:

The following is the description of the directories, files, and examples provided within this product release (location: http://www2.census.gov/acs2009_1yr/summaryfile/). The summary file structure is accessible by visiting the web address at “http://www2.census.gov/acs2009_1yr/summaryfile/ “. The previous web address lists information in reference to national (United States excluding Puerto Rico), 50 States, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico data. In addition, sample SAS programs demonstrating how to work with the summary files are also provided.

Directory Structure:

Based on user feedback, the ACS Summary Files are now organized into three categories

1. Entire Summary File (This zip file contains all of the summary file data, MOE's, and geography files) - 1 File in Directory
/acs2009_1yr/summaryfile/Entire_SF/20091YRSF.zip
2. Entire States (These files contains all of the summary file data, MOE's, and geography files per state) - 53 Files in Directory (50 States, 1 US, DC, PR)
/acs2009_1yr/summaryfile/Entire_States/<FULL STATE NAME>.zip
3. Individual Sequences - 53 directories with 176 Compressed Sequence Files (both Estimates & MOE's) 1 Geography file in each directory
/acs2009_1yr/summaryfile/Seq_By_ST/<ST ABBRV>/<Sequence ID>.zip

The sample SAS program and Excel Template directory is named UserTools.

Geography Information:

Each data directory contains a geography file. The geography file naming convention follows the below constructs.

Compressed File (Zip File Format)

Many of the files are compressed using the ZIP file format that reduces the size of the files contained within the archive. The following is an example of the syntax of the file naming convention used for compressed files in the directory /acs2009_1yr/summaryfile/Seq_By_ST/<ST ABBRV>/

20091<\2-digit state FIPS code><4-digit Sequence Number>000.zip

Alabama as an example of a ZIP file for sequence number 0144: 20091al0144000.zip.

Please note the sequence numbers go from 0001 to 0176.

All of the zipped files (compressed files) listed in the directory structure above contain text files which use the following naming conventions:

Estimate files are identified by the letter “e” followed by year, product set time period, 2-digit state FIPS code, Four digit Sequence Number, and the numbers “000” with file extension “.txt”. For example, the estimate file for survey year 2009 1 year estimates, for the state of Alabama for sequence number 144 is listed as below:

- e20091al0144000.txt

Margin of Error files are identified by the letter “m” followed by year, product set time period, 2-digit state FIPS code, Four digit Sequence Number, and the numbers “000” with file extension “.txt”. For example, the Margin of Error file for survey year 2009 1 year estimates, for the state of Alabama for sequence number 144 is listed as below:

- m20091al0144000.txt

Geography file are identified by the letter “g”, followed by year, product set time period (i.e. 1), 2-digit state FIPS code, and file extension “.txt”. For example, the Geography file for survey year 2009 1 year estimates, for the state of Alabama for sequence number 144 is listed as below:

- g20091al.txt

Please note that the above example that uses the state of Alabama are subject to change from year to year due to addition, deletion, or modification to current detail tables.

References

For more information on the data contained within the Summary Files, please visit the
For additional information about sequence number assignment within the 2009 1-year
product set please visit

http://www2.census.gov/acs2009_1yr/summaryfile/merge_5_6.xls

For additional information on the Summary File Geography file, please visit:

http://www.census.gov/acs/www/UseData/sf/tech_doc.htm

Contact Information

Please send any technical questions or comments you have via email to:
nicholas.m.spanos@census.gov. If you have questions or comments about the American
Community Survey, please contact us online at <http://ask.census.gov>.